

Navajo National Monument HC 71, Box 3 Tonalea, AZ 86044

928-672-2700 phone 928-672-2703 fax

Navajo National Monument News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact(s): Lola Henio
Phone number: 928-672-2720
Date: March 29, 2010

Release code: NPS

Spring 2010 Betatakin Guided Tours

Due to unusually heavy snowfall at Navajo National Monument this winter, guided tours to Betatakin Ruin have had a delayed start this spring. This past weekend a reconnaissance of the trail was conducted by Park Rangers. Rangers reported that the roads and trail are mostly free of snow and are now passable. With that information, Acting Superintendent Ellen Brennan has made the decision to start guided weekend tours to Betatakin Ruin beginning Saturday, April 3, 2010.

"The favorable report on trail and road conditions allows us to begin offering this popular activity. One tour will be offered on Saturdays and Sundays until Memorial Day weekend, at which time the tours will be given twice each day, seven days a week. Tours are limited to 20 people and space is given on a first come first served basis. Visitors may sign up for tours at the Visitor Center. No reservations are accepted for the Betatakin tour. Tours begin at 10:00 A.M., Mountain Daylight Savings Time, from the Visitor Center" said Acting Superintendent Brennan. Please note that inclement weather may necessitate cancellation of tours.

The guided tour to Betatakin is a 5 miles roundtrip hike on a steep trail. The hike is moderately strenuous and may take between 4 to 5 hours to complete. Please wear sturdy hiking shoes, carry water, and bring clothing appropriate for weather conditions. Please call the visitor center at 928-672-2700 for more information.